

STAFFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1952

JUNE, 1953

ANNUAL REPORT

Public Health Department,
7, St. Mary's Grove,
Stafford,

June, 1953.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE STAFFORD RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting to you the Annual Report for the year 1952. The report has been compiled on the general lines suggested in the Ministry of Health Circular 2/53.

The Vital Statistics of the Stafford Rural District for 1952 compare favourably with those for England and Wales. The Live Birth Rate was 14.6 per 1,000 population and the Death Rate 8.7 compared with respective figures of 15.3 and 11.3 for England and Wales. In the rural district there was an excess of 113 Live Births over Total Deaths. It is of interest to note that in England and Wales the estimated expectation of life of a male child at birth is 65.8 years and that of a female child 70.9 years, the respective figures in 1901 being 48.5 and 52.4 years. The Infant Mortality Rate for the Stafford Rural District was 21, the figure of 27.6 for England and Wales being the lowest ever recorded.

In the rural district in 1952 there were 59 cases of Scarlet-Fever compared with 27 in 1951. Of recent years Scarlet Fever has become a mild disease, but the progressive fall in the mortality from the disease has not been accompanied by a comparable decline in the number of cases. Measles and Whooping Cough numbered 47 and 46, compared with figures of 201 and 126 for 1951. No cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Dysentery or Poliomyelitis were notified during 1952. The Tuberculosis Death Rate was 0.15 per 1,000 population compared with a figure of 0.24 for England and Wales. 49 names were on the Tuberculosis Register of the Stafford Rural District at the end of 1952.

The Summary of Visits reveals that the Council's Sanitary Inspectors made 3,070 visits connected with the sanitary inspection of the district during 1952. Tables in the body of the report show that there are 4,446 dwellings in the rural district, 474 of these dwellings being categorised as unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost. 2,711 houses are on a public mains water supply, 2,308 have pail closets on fixed privies and 2,201

are without a fixed bath. The table showing "Parish Statistics and Services" gives many details in compact form. During the year progress was made with the Western Area Water Scheme and many additional dwellings were connected to the mains water supply. Full details re Sewerage will be found in the pages of the report.

Eighty-five new houses were erected in the rural district during 1952, 56 of these being provided by the Council. Comprehensive details re houses are shown in the various tables embodied in the report. It will be seen that during the year 35 licences were granted in respect of the use of vans as dwellings, the Sanitary Inspector reporting that the licensed vans were fairly well scattered over the Council's area, kept in satisfactory manner and creating no nuisance.

In the details given under Milk and Dairies Regulations, it will be seen that during 1952 ten notices were served under Regulation 20, Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, requiring heat treatment of milk found to contain tubercle bacilli, the notices being withdrawn when the likelihood of the milk causing disease had been obviated.

I wish to conclude this introduction by thanking the Staff of the Public Health Department for much help in the preparation of this report and for their satisfactory performance of work during 1952. Thanks are also due to the members of the Council for their help and interest in the work of the department, and to Dr. A. V. Campbell, who has acted for me during holiday periods.

A. THOMSON.

Public Health Committee, 1952

Chairman—

COUNCILLOR A. J. BOURNE

Vice-Chairman—

COUNCILLOR H. C. PLANT

Members—

Councillor Dr. G. N. Anderson	Councillor Miss G. Joules
„ J. R. Ball	„ H. J. Moulton
„ W. Bramall, J.P.	„ S. W. K. Marshall
„ R. H. Cartmail	„ D. H. T. Smith,
„ Rev. W. F. O’N. Fisher,	C.C.
M.A.	„ C. H. Stafford
„ A. H. Johnson	Northcote, M.A.
„ A. J. James	„ C. S. Whiteley

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health—

A. THOMSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edin.)

Chief Sanitary Inspector—

G. M. LAWTON, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A., Certified Food Inspector

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

F. WEEDON, M.S.I.A.

Clerk—

MRS. L. E. HOLLOWAY

Clerk and Trainee—

J. LEAR

General Statistics, Social Conditions and Health Services in the Area

Area (in acres)	80,249
Number of inhabited houses .. .	4,446
Rateable Value	£86,392
Sum represented by a Penny Rate .. .	£341
Yearly Rate Levied in 1952 .. .	16/-
Population (as estimated by the Registrar-General) :	
Total Population	19,430
Estimated number of Agricultural Workers .. .	1,250
Estimated number of workers in other occupations .. .	5,250

There were no alterations in the boundaries of the Rural Area in 1952.

A map of the area is included in this report.

Industries

Many residents in the Area are normally mainly engaged in Agriculture, Dairy Farming and Allied occupations, but a substantial number of persons resident in the Rural Area are employed in the County Town of Stafford, where the chief industries are Engineering and Boot and Shoe Manufacturing. Estimated numbers are shewn above.

Laboratory Facilities, Ambulance Facilities, Nursing in the Home, Treatment Centres and Voluntary Hospitals

Bacteriological facilities are made available to Medical Practitioners in the Area by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. This Service is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. The facilities include examinations of Throat Swabs, Sputum Tests, Blood Tests, etc. Results of all examinations relevant to Public Health are made available to the appropriate Medical Officer of Health. The Director of the Stafford Laboratory is Lt-Col. Phease, whose helpful advice is available to the Medical Officer of Health when occasion demands. Bacteriological examinations of samples of water are undertaken by the Laboratory Service.

Chemical Examinations of samples of water are carried out at the County Chemical Laboratory which is directed by Mr. Houlbrooke, the County Analyst. The results of such analyses are shewn in the body of the report.

The Stafford Rural District Council, until 5th July, 1948, had agreements with the Stafford Borough and Rugeley Urban District Councils for use of their Ambulances for general hospital work, and the services provided proved adequate and sufficient for the needs of the Rural Area. On 5th July, 1948, the duty of providing Ambulance Services was placed upon the County Council as Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Until July 5th the Mid-Staffs. Joint Hospital Board, of

which the Stafford R.D. was a constituent member, provided ambulance facilities for the conveyance of cases of Infectious Diseases to Isolation Hospitals under the Board's jurisdiction. The Regional Hospital Board (Birmingham) thereafter took over responsibility for these hospitals.

The County Council is the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the Stafford R.D. Area. Child Welfare Centres are available at Gnosall, Great Haywood, Hixon and Walton, and the Health Visitors do excellent work in promoting the Welfare of young children in the district. Your Medical Officer of Health attends the Welfare Centres and Schools in the Area and is thus enabled to assess the health standards of the young life in the district.

There are two General Medical Practitioners resident in the Stafford R.D. and Practitioners from the neighbouring towns of Stafford, Rugeley, Newport, etc., also practise in the Area. The various parishes in the Stafford R.D. are well served by District Nurse-Midwives.

The Staffordshire General Infirmary, from 5th July, 1948, under the direction of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, serves the general hospital needs of the district. From that date the Board also assumed responsibility for the provision of Maternity Hospital facilities which previously were provided by the Staffordshire County Council. There are also several small private Maternity Homes providing for the district.

During the year the Council subscribed to the Central Council for Health Education which represented the Ministry of Health in Health Education matters and use was made of Health Education leaflets, etc., relating to Infectious Diseases, Food Hygiene and so on.

Vital Statistics for the Year 1952

In the Stafford Rural District in 1952 the Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population was 14.6 compared with a rate of 15.3 for England and Wales.

					Stafford R.D.
					Live Birth Rate per
Year					1,000 Population
1952	..	..	..	..	14.6
1951	..	..	..	..	15.2
1950	..	..	..	..	15.2
1949	..	..	..	..	20.8
1948	..	..	..	..	18.0
1947	..	..	..	..	18.7
1946	..	..	..	..	18.7
1945	..	..	..	..	18.2
1944	..	..	..	..	19.6
1943	..	..	..	..	21.1
1942	..	..	..	..	19.3

The Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 Population was 0.21 in 1952, compared with 0.15, 0.16, 0.20, 0.79, 0.86, 0.27 in 1951, 1950, 1949, 1948, 1947 and 1946, respectively.

During 1952 the Rate of Illegitimate to Legitimate Births was 1 to 18, compared with figures of 1 to 29, 1 to 19, 1 to 23, 1 to 16, 1 to 13 in 1951, 1950, 1949, 1948 and 1947, respectively.

There were 283 (300) Live Births in the Rural Area in 1952, 139 (154) boys and 144 (146) girls. The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1951.

In the following table Comparative figures for Live and Still-Births are shewn for England and Wales :—

Year	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	
	Stafford R.D.	England and Wales	Stafford R.D.	England and Wales
1952	14.6	15.3	0.21	0.35
1951	15.2	15.5	0.15	0.36
1950	15.2	15.8	0.16	0.37
1949	20.8	16.7	0.20	0.39
1948	18.0	17.9	0.79	0.42
1947	18.7	20.5	0.86	0.50
1946	18.7	19.1	0.27	0.53
1945	18.2	16.1	0.41	0.46
1944	19.6	17.6	0.40	0.50
1943	21.1	16.5	0.55	0.51

There were 4 Still-Births in the Rural Area (1 m., 3 f.) in 1952, all being legitimate.

Deaths

In 1952 the Death Rate per 1,000 of the population was 8.7 compared with a Rate of 11.3 for England and Wales.

Year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population			
	Stafford R.D.		England & Wales	
1952	8.7	11.3
1951	9.3	12.5
1950	9.5	11.6
1949	10.1	11.7
1948	9.1	10.8
1947	10.2	12.0
1946	9.3	11.5
1945	10.9	11.4
1944	9.8	11.6
1943	12.9	12.1

In the Stafford Rural District in 1952, total deaths numbered 170, 92 males and 78 females. The excess of live births over total deaths was 113, compared with 116, 106, 164, 135, 129 and 140 in 1951, 1950, 1949, 1948, 1947 and 1946, respectively.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 6, 6 legitimate and nil illegitimate, giving a Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births of 21 compared with 27.6 for England and Wales.

Infant Mortality Rate

Death Rate of Children under 1 year
of age per 1,000 Live Births

Year	Stafford R.D.	England & Wales
1952	21	27.6
1951	50	29.6
1950	39	29.8
1949	25	32
1948	29	34
1947	32	41
1946	61	43
1945	22	46
1944	44	46

Deaths in England and Wales during 1952 numbered 497,290 giving a rate of 11.3 per thousand population, compared with 12.5 in 1951 and 11.6 in 1950. This is the second lowest rate ever recorded.

On the basis of 1951 death rates, the estimated expectation of life of a male child at birth would be 65.8 years and that of a female child 70.9 years. This compares with figures of 48.5 and 52.4 years respectively in 1901.

The Birth Rate in 1952 in England and Wales was the lowest since 1941. There were 673,559 live births, representing a rate of 15.3 per thousand population. This was 0.2 below the rate for 1951. Of every thousand live births 46 were illegitimate, this being 5 per thousand fewer than the average for the preceding five years. The births registered in 1952 exceeded the deaths by 176,269, the corresponding excess for 1951 being 130,309, and the average excess for 1946-50 281,195.

In 1952 the Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales fell to 27.6 per 1,000 live births, the lowest ever recorded in this country. It was 2.0 below the rate for 1950, the previous lowest. Comparative rates in other countries were : in 1952, Sweden 20, Netherlands 23, U.S.A. 29 ; in 1951, New Zealand 23, Australia 25, Canada 38, France 51, Belgium 66, Italy 67.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 49.8 for 1941-45, 55.3 for 1936-40, and 156 for 1896-1900.

The provisional Maternal Mortality Rate (excluding abortion) per 1,000 live and stillbirths in England and Wales in 1952 was 0.59, a new low record, the previous lowest rate having been 0.66 in 1951. The provisional Neonatal Death Rate (babies under four weeks of age) for 1952 was 18.9 per 1,000 live births. In 1951 the rate was 18.8 and in 1939 it was 28.3.

Population—England and Wales

Year ..	Males	Females	Total
1801 ..	4,254,735	4,637,801	8,892,536
1851 ..	8,781,225	9,146,384	17,927,609
1901 ..	15,728,613	16,799,230	32,527,843
1951 ..	21,049,000	22,751,000	43,800,000

In England and Wales the provisional 1952 death rates for all forms of cancer were 2,149 and 1,850 per million population for men and women respectively. The 1951 figures were 2,120 and 1,822. The rise in the rate for men includes an increase from 530 to 567 per million population for deaths assigned to cancer of the lung and bronchus, making a total increase of 47% since 1947.

Deaths 1952 : Causes

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Totals
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..	1	—	1
Other forms o. Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococca Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasms : all sites ..	9	6	15
Diabetes	1	—	1
Vascular lesions of Nervous System ..	19	19	38
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	28	31	59
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis	5	6	11
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	—	—
Uleer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	1	1	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	—	1	1
Nephritis	1	1	2
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System ..	3	—	3
Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation ;	2	—	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
All other Accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	1	—	1
Homieide	—	—	—
All-Other Causes.. .. .	11	8	19
TOTALS	92	78	170

**Names of Parishes in Stafford Rural District shewing number of
houses (including farm houses), approximate population figures and
Incidence of Infectious Diseases in each parish in 1952**

Name of Parish	Number of Houses	Approximate Population	Infectious Diseases Notified									
			Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles (excluding Rubella)	Whooping Cough	Primary Pneumonia	Dysentery	Enteric or Typhoid	Para- typhoid	Erysipelas	Polomyelitis
Adbaston	163	610	—	—	6	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Berkswich	327	1,256	6	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bradley	82	319	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brocton	203	784	7	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Castle Church ..	176	727	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Church Eaton ..	180	1,019*	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colwich	465	1,763	5	—	16	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Creswell	89	322	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ellenhall	51	172	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Forton	195	713	1	—	6	5	—	—	—	—	1	—
Fradswell	45	155	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gayton	51	190	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Gnosall	627	2,229	5	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haughton	163	537	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
High Offley	190	678	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hopton and Coton	251	3,403*	9	—	2	12	5	—	—	—	—	—
Ingestre	44	133	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marston	47	208	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norbury	86	291	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ranton	66	276	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salt and Enson ..	95	386	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Seighford	309	1,102	2	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stowe	332	1,316*	12	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tixall	46	206	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weston	113	418	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitgreave	50	217	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	4,446	19,430	59	—	47	46	8	—	—	—	1	—

*Include Polish Hostel occupants, H.M. Forces, etc.

Infectious Diseases

The Incidence of Infectious Diseases in 1952 compared with that of previous years is shewn below in tabular form. :—

Disease	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942
Scarlet Fever	59	27	32	34	55	35	26	27	46	59	18
Whooping Cough	46	201	5	36	53	16	37	35	25	78	22
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	6	4	5
Erysipelas	1	2	5	5	3	1	2	4	2	2	9
Measles (excluding Rubella)	47	126	314	43	115	125	1	164	75	110	10
Primary Pneumonia	8	7	10	6	2	3	3	2	5	6	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	5	1	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
Dysentery	—	5	5	—	—	1	10	1	7	2	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	1	9	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—

Infectious Diseases—England and Wales

SCARLET FEVER

Year	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Cases	78,101	65,302	59,433	85,084	116,034	92,671	73,687	56,730	58,047	74,831	70,667	65,889	48,744
Deaths	181	154	133	104	134	107	84	43	42	37	18	33	37
Case Fatality (%)	0.23	0.24	0.22	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.07	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.08

Most of Scarlet Fever cases now are very mild ; the progressive fall in mortality has not been accompanied by a comparable decline in the number of cases.

MEASLES

Year	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Notifications ..	409,521	409,715	286,341	376,104	158,479	446,796	160,402	393,787	399,606	385,935	367,725	616,192
Deaths	857	1,145	458	773	243	729	204	644	327	307	221	317
Case Fatality (%)	0.21	0.28	0.16	0.21	0.15	0.16	0.13	0.16	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.05

WHOOPING COUGH

Year	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Notifications ..	53,607	173,330	66,016	96,136	94,044	62,691	92,936	92,682	146,410	102,816	157,781	169,441
Deaths	678	2,383	799	1,114	1,054	689	808	905	748	527	394	457
Case Fatality (%)	1.26	1.37	1.21	1.16	1.12	1.10	0.87	0.98	0.51	0.51	0.25	0.27

POLIOMYELITIS

Year	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Total Cases ..	526	853	673	7,766	1,848	5,967	7,752	2,609
Deaths	109	139	128	707	241	657	755	217

Age—Incidence of Infectious Diseases, 1952

AGE-GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Measles (excluding Rubella)		Whooping Cough		Primary Pneumonia		Dysentery		Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Paratyphoid Fever		Erysipelas		Polio-myelitis	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 4 years ..	2	3	—	—	10	10	11	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years ..	13	31	—	—	13	10	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 years ..	3	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 years ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—30 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31—50 years ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
51—70 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Over 70 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	21	38	—	—	25	22	22	24	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Infectious Diseases Notifications, 1952, showing Months of Occurrence

MONTH	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Measles (exclud- ing Rubella)	Whoop- ing Cough	Pneum'ia (Acute) Primary	Dysen- tery	Food Poison- ing	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Ery- sipelas	Poliomyelitis Para- lytic	Poliomyelitis Non- Paralytic
January ..	8	—	10	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ..	6	—	11	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March ..	7	—	7	9	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April ..	2	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
May ..	6	—	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June ..	4	—	2	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July ..	2	—	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
August ..	—	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
September ..	4	—	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
October ..	9	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
November ..	8	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
December ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	59	—	47	46	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Statistics, 1952

	Stafford Rural District	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 smaller Towns with Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 census	London Administrative County
Births :—		Rates	per 1,000 Population		
Live Births	14.6	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6
Still Births	0.21	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34
Deaths :—					
All causes	8.7	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.15	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31
Influenza	—	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
Smallpox	—	0.00	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (includ'g Polioencephalitis)	—	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.21	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58
NOTIFICATIONS					
Typhoid Fever	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Meningococcal Infections	—	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever	3.0	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56
Whooping Cough	2.4	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66
Diphtheria	—	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.05	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	2.42	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23
Pneumonia	0.41	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	—	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Paralytic	—	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Non-Paralytic	—	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18
Food Poisoning	—				
Deaths :—		Rates per 1,000 Live Births			
All causes under 1 yr. of age	21.0	27.6	31.2	25.8	23.8
NOTIFICATIONS :		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births			
Puerperal Pyrexia	3.48	17.87	23.94	10.22	30.77

Diphtheria Immunisation

During 1952 facilities were available for the Diphtheria Immunisation of children at schools, welfare centres and by private practitioners. The following table shows the number, etc., of children so treated, figures for 1951 being given in brackets.

Course of Primary Injections		Reinforcing Injections
Under 5 years	5—14 years	
168 (133)	27 (74)	165 (256)

The Ministry of Health stresses the need for the campaign against Diphtheria to be continued with unabated vigour.

With the fall in the number of cases of and deaths from Diphtheria a feeling of complacency may be engendered in the public mind. The maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation is absolutely essential.

It is vital to secure that not less than 75% of children are immunised before their first birthday.

Intensive efforts must, therefore, be continued to achieve the level of immunisation necessary. If parents do not have children protected by immunisation there may be a return of diphtheria outbreaks. The fullest publicity is advocated by the Ministry as essential if parents are to be helped to realize that Diphtheria is still a deadly threat and to be persuaded to have their children immunised.

VACCINATIONS

During 1952 the figures for vaccinations in the Rural Area were as follows :—

	Under 1	1—4	5—14	Over 15	Totals
Vaccinations . .	72 (70)	16 (24)	5 (4)	12 (9)	105 (107)
Re-Vaccinations	—	3 (—)	2 (2)	25 (28)	30 (30)

Figures for 1951 are given in brackets.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following extract from the Register was taken at the end of December, 1952.

1952	Cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis			Cases of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis			Total of Respiratory and Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
End of December, 1952	28 (35)	13 (15)	41 (50)	3 (6)	5 (7)	8 (13)	49 (63)

One death from Respiratory Tuberculosis occurred in the Rural Area in 1952 ; there were two deaths due to Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis. This gave a death-rate of 0.15 per 1,000 population compared with a figure of 0.24 for England and Wales.

England and Wales—Deaths from Tuberculosis

Year	Respiratory	Other Forms	Total
1939	21,542	4,081	25,623
1948	19,088	2,905	21,993
1949	17,559	2,349	19,908
1950	14,079	1,890	15,969
1951	12,031	1,775	13,806

At the end of 1951, 295,087 cases of notified Tuberculosis (all forms) were on clinic registers, of whom 25,477 were known to have had Tubercle Bacilli in the sputum within the preceding six months.

It is reported that 57 Mass Miniature Radiography Units were working in England and Wales among the civilian population during 1951, and made more than 2,250,000 examinations, the weekly average number being 43,000, but of this weekly number an average of 126 cases of previously unsuspected active Tuberculosis were detected each week—this representing 15% of all notifications of Respiratory Tuberculosis. It is pointed out that the epidemicological importance of this work can scarcely be over-rated, for it is the unrecognised patient suffering from the active disease who spreads the infection in the community. Mass Miniature Radiography is also of service in detecting unsuspected tumours in the chest and offering the possibility of cure by timely surgery.

“It is possible to register a qualified optimism with regard to Tuberculosis. So much has been done in the last decade by earlier ascertainment, by a wider range of therapeutic measures, by tentative experiments in prophylaxis and by improved social conditions, that the end of the battle may appear to be in sight.”

Persons examined by Mass Miniature Radiography in England and Wales, October, 1946, to 31st December, 1951.

	Males	Females	Total
Totals ..	4,615,516	3,416,532	8,032,048
Found Normal	4,342,282	3,272,485	7,614,767
Percentage	94	96	

The provisional death rate for Respiratory Tuberculosis in 1952 was 212 per million persons. This is a decrease of 23 per cent. from the previous year and is less than half the figure for 1947. The rate for other forms of Tuberculosis was 28 per million persons, compared with 41 for 1951.

National Assistance Act, 1948

During 1952 no action under Section 47 of the above Act was taken by the Council.

ACCIDENT STATISTICS FOR 1952

Mr. C. R. L. Smith has kindly provided the following report for the year 1952.

“The following table shows the number of accidents occurring in the Rural District during the year ended 31st December, 1952, together with the figures shown in brackets for 1951 :—

Fatal	With injury	Damage only	Total
5 (4)	97 (88)	91 (105)	193 (197)

The number of persons involved in the above when death or injury was sustained is as follows :—

Fatal	Seriously injured	Slightly injured	Total
5 (4)	44 (31)	87 (85)	136 (120)

The classification of persons injured in the above accidents are :—

	Fatal	Seriously injured	Slightly injured	Total
Pedestrians under 15 years..	— (2)	3 (2)	2 (3)	5 (7)
Pedestrians over 15 years ..	— (—)	— (1)	5 (4)	5 (5)
Drivers of motor vehicles ..	— (—)	8 (3)	18 (24)	26 (27)
Motor Cyclists	3 (—)	13 (15)	17 (8)	33 (23)
Pillion Passengers	— (1)	4 (3)	6 (5)	10 (9)
Pedal Cyclists under 15 years	— (—)	2 (2)	2 (—)	4 (2)
Pedal Cyclists over 15 years	— (—)	8 (2)	13 (17)	21 (19)
Other persons (passengers, etc.)	2 (1)	6 (3)	24 (24)	32 (28)
TOTALS	5 (4)	44 (31)	87 (85)	136 (120)

The five fatal accidents occurred in the following places :—

- (a) Stafford Road, Weston .. Passenger killed
- (b) Knighton, Adbaston .. Motor cyclist killed
- (c) Farley Road, Hixon .. Motor cyclist killed
- (d) Wolseley Bridge .. Motor cyclist killed
- (e) London Road, Colwich .. Passenger killed

Well, what do we learn from the above figures? I think several factors come to light immediately. These are :—

- (1) That there are far too many accidents on the roads of Stafford Rural—staggering when one thinks that a road accident occurs at least every other day.

- (2) That whilst the number of accidents is slightly lower than those for 1951 the number of persons killed or injured has risen.
- (3) That out of 136 persons killed or injured only 9 were children—in other words 6.61 %—surely a tribute to the excellent work of instruction in road safety now being undertaken in the majority of schools in this district.
- (4) Of the five localities where fatal accidents happened, (a), (d) and (e) are main roads which carry an almost continuous stream of traffic. (b) and (c) are roads which carry comparatively little traffic—this surely proves the saying that one must exercise care on the roads at all times.

The Road Safety Committee for the Stafford Rural District keeps up a continuous campaign in an effort to educate its inhabitants in road safety. They do this by organising film shows, exhibitions, road safety quizzes, cycling proficiency tests, painting competitions, distributing leaflets and posters, etc. They have even organised demonstrations on how the public should look after and train dogs. It is estimated that during 1952 some 15,000 persons attended these various functions. Posters in all shops, factories, etc., are renewed approximately every two months. Some 50,000 leaflets, comics, pencils, blotters and various other educational and useful articles emphasising road safety were distributed this year. In fact this campaign costs approximately £500 per annum—money which is, and I think you will agree with me, well spent, if it only means one person saved from death or severe injury on our roads.

The Committee also press to the full the highway authority to effect improvements to the “black spots” on the roads of the district. One has only to travel around for proof of this, i.e., Derrington village; Hyde Lea Bank; the new footpath from Farley Corner to Tolldish Lane, Great Haywood; Knighton Road, Adbaston; Butt Lane, Ranton; Bradley Cross Roads, Haughton; and many other improvements and at this point I wish, on behalf of my Committee, to thank the Staffordshire County Council and in particular the County Surveyor from whom every assistance and help possible has been received in getting these suggested improvements carried out. One can only hope that the powers that be will one day in the not too distant future, release to the highway authorities a little more of the £300,000,000 collected in road taxes to enable them to carry out far more road improvements than it is possible on the financial grants now allowed.

If everyone would realise that the majority of road accidents could have been avoided had someone used a little more care, courtesy or consideration, then the road accident problem would not be so real as it is today. It is a fact that more people lose their lives on the roads of this country than there are people killed by such dreadful diseases as Tuberculosis, Cancer, etc. Let us all then resolve to practise the "three C's" (Care, Courtesy and Consideration).

Finally I wish to thank the Council's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. A. Thomson, for allowing me this space in his Annual Report."

STAFFORD R.D.C.

MAP SCALE 1 INCH = 3 MILES.



SANITARY SERVICES

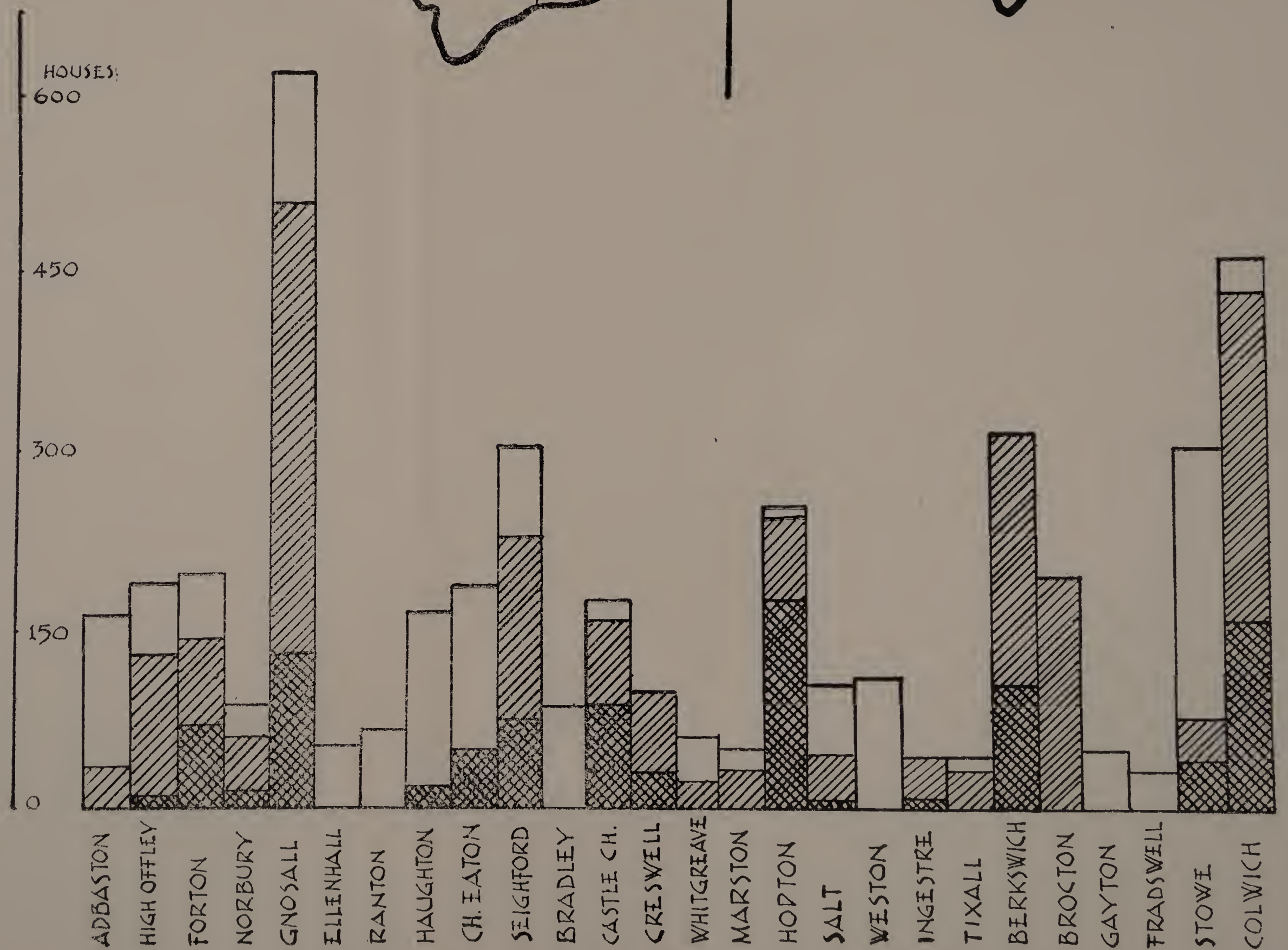
HOUSES HAVING MAIN
WATER AND SEWERAGE



HOUSES HAVING MAIN
WATER ONLY



REMAINDER



PARISH STATISTICS AND SERVICES

Parish	Approx. popula- tion in Parish	No. of houses in Parish	Amenity	Public Health Services to Parish or part of Parish						Water supplied direct to house		Water supplied by standpipe		Total Dwell- ings on main	Parish
										No. of houses	Popula- tion	No. of houses	Popula- tion		
Adbaston	610	163	R	RW		El		RC	83	330	—	—	—	83	Adbaston
Berkswich	1,256	327	SR	BW	S	El	G	RC	321	1,279	4	18	—	325	Berkswich
Bradley	319	82	R			El		RC	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bradley
Brocton	784	203	SR	BW		El	G	RC	196	803	4	11	—	200	Brocton
Castle Church ..	727	176	SR	BW	S	El	G	RC	160	682	—	—	—	160	Castle Church
Church Eaton ..	1,019*	180	R	SW	S	El		RC	—	—	19	70	—	19	Church Eaton
Colwich	1,763	465	SR	BW	S	El		RC	396	1,592	30	120	—	426	Colwich
Creswell	322	89	SR	BW	S	El	G	RC	87	316	—	—	—	87	Creswell
Ellenhall	172	51	R			El		RC	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ellenhall
Forton	713	195	R	RW	S	El	G	RC	85	353	—	—	—	85	Forton
Fradswell	155	45	R			El		RC	—	—	—	—	—	—	Fradswell
Gayton	190	51	R			El		RC	—	—	—	—	—	—	Gayton
Gnosall	2,229	627	R	RW	S	El		RC	516	1,853	—	—	—	516	Gnosall
Haughton	537	163	R		S	El		RC	—	—	—	—	—	—	Haughton
High Offley ..	678	190	R	RW		El		RC	125	400	—	—	—	125	High Offley
Hopton & Coton ..	3,403*	251	SR	BW	S	El	G	RC	237	790	8	30	—	245	Hopton & Coton
Ingestre	133	44	R	IW	S	El		RC	44	133	—	—	—	44	Ingestre
Marston	208	47	R	CCW		El		RC	31	130	—	—	—	31	Marston
Norbury	291	86	R	RW	S	El		RC	60	219	—	—	—	60	Norbury
Ranton	276	66	R			El		RC	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ranton
Salt and Enson ..	386	95	R	IW	S	El		RC	51	170	—	—	—	51	Salt & Enson
Seighford	1,102	309	R	BW	S	El		RC	236	798	—	—	—	236	Seighford
Stowe	1,316*	332	R	BW	S	El		RC	87	329	—	—	—	87	Stowe
Tixall	206	46	R	BW		El	G	RC	38	186	—	—	—	38	Tixall
Weston	418	113	R			El		RC	—	—	—	—	—	—	Weston
Whitgreave ..	217	50	R	CCW		El		RC	24	105	—	—	—	24	Whitgreave
TOTALS	19,430	4,446							2,777	10,468	65	249	—	2,842	

*Include Polish Hostel occupants, H.M. Forces, etc.

REFERENCES

R Rural
SR Semi-Rural

RW Stafford R.D.C. Hollies Water Supply
BW Stafford Borough Water Supply
SW Stafford R.D.C. Church Eaton Bore Supply
IW Ingestre Private Piped Supply
CCW Staffs. C.C. Yarlet Bank Private Supply

S Sewerage
El Electricity
G Gas
RC Refuse Collection

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

TOTAL NUMBER OF DWELLINGS IN RURAL DISTRICT ..	4,446
No. of Farmhouses	661
No. of Dwellings other than Farmhouses	3,785

STATE OF FITNESS OF DWELLINGS :

Houses satisfactory in all respects	964
Houses with minor defects	1,098
Houses requiring repair of major character ..	899
Houses suitable for reconditioning	370
Houses unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost	474
	3,785

(Note—No Figures are available under this sub-
heading for farmhouses)

SANITARY SERVICES :

Water Supply :

Houses on Public Mains	2,711
Houses on Private Mains	131
Houses on Private Borehole	117
Houses on Well Water, Spring or other Supply	1,487
	4,446

Sewerage and Drainage :

No. of Houses

(a) Connected to Sewer	1,204
(b) Connected to Septic Tank or Ditch ..	3,080
(c) Without Drainage	162
	4,446

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, ETC. :

Houses with—

Water Closet	2,008
Pail Closet or Fixed Privy	2,308
Waste Water Closet	28
Elsan Closet	102
	4,446

Houses without—

Sink	113
Bath	2,201

SANITARY INSPECTION—SUMMARY OF VISITS

Inspection of Dwelling Houses 765

These Inspections were for the following purposes :—

(a)	Slum Clearance	..	..	..	..	12
(b)	Inspection of Houses for defects (excluding Hobhouse Survey)	..	..	..		100
(c)	Re-inspection of Houses as to Repairs	..				269
(d)	Inspections of living Vans and Sheds	..				92
(e)	Inspection of Service Buildings occupied by Squatters	..	..	..	..	64
(f)	Overcrowding and Housing Applications					138
(g)	Re-tenanting of Vaeant Dwellings	..				31
(h)	Verminous and Dirty Dwellings	..		..		59
						<hr/> 765

Inspection of Premises for and re Nuisances 90
Drainage Inspections 325
New Drains Laid and Examined 17
Visits re Food Supply—Meat 132
do. do. Ice-Cream 43
do. do. Other Foods 15
do. do. Cafes 18
Infection of Milk Supply 55
Dairies 12
Infectious Diseases 65
Visits re Water Supply 157
Samples of Water taken for Chemical and Bacteriological Examination 73
Refuse Tips — Supervision 281
Refuse and Salvage Collection 203
Factories (including Bakehouses) and Outworkers 38
Knackers' Yards 14
Petroleum Stores 26
Rat Infestations 333
Fumigations 10
Keeping of Animals 56
Shops Acts 178
Accumulation of Refuse 31
Miscellaneous Visits 133

3,070

NOTICES SERVED DURING YEAR :

	No. Served	No. complied with
Informal Notices and Letters as to general matters	61	64
Informal Notices to provide Dustbins ..	28	30
Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act, 1936	4*	2

*Two of these were complied with early in 1953

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR :

Total number received .. .. .	..	69
As to Repairs to Dwellings	10	
Others	59	

WATER SUPPLY

The public mains supplies are solely from this Council's boreholes at The Hollies, Gnosall, and from the Stafford Borough Council's wells and boreholes at Milford. Both these supplies have proved satisfactory in quality and quantity. The latter supply only is chlorinated.

The length of distribution mains now in operation in the Council's Western Area Water Scheme (based on The Hollies boreholes) is 43.68 miles and the length of mains in the Eastern Area—other than those in the Stafford Borough Supply Area—is 2.35 miles.

During the year under review progress with the Western Area Scheme was maintained and connections to mains supply of many additional dwellings in High Offley, Norbury, Oulton, Weston Jones, Knightley, Sutton, Forton, Adbaston, Shebdon, Bishops Offley and Doley were completed. In addition the supply to Hopton and Sandon Bank was augmented by the substitution in the existing private mains of Stafford Borough Water Supply for the Ingestre Estate private supply.

Private mains supplies are given to Ingestre and Salt and Enson (from Ingestre Estate Supply) and to Marston and Whitgreave (from Staffordshire County Council Yarlet Bank supply).

The supplies to those dwellings dependent on individual wells and springs, are frequently unsatisfactory in both quality and quantity and it was found necessary during the year to cart supplies to tanks placed at Sandon Bank and Hopton. These tanks have since been removed on the augmentation of the supply referred to above.

Samples of drinking water taken during the year, together with results, are as follows :—

	Number of Samples taken for Bacteriological Exam. and Chemical Analysis	RESULTS		
		Fit	Unfit	Borderline
Wells (Private) ..	32	7	21	4
Springs (Private) ..	4	1	2	1
Boreholes (Private)	34	31	3	—
Main Supplies :				
(a) Public ..	1	1	—	—
(b) Private ..	2	2	—	—
	73	42	26	5

Examples of examination of the public and private mains supplies are given in the table on page 25. The number of dwellings supplied from mains at December, 1952, (a) direct to the houses and (b) by means of stand pipes are shown in the table on centre page.

SAMPLES TAKEN FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MAINS SUPPLIES IN THE AREA

	Public Supplies		Private Supplies	
	HOLLIES BORE STAFFORD R.D.C. (Taken from tap, Knightley C. of E. School) Sample No. 474	STAFFORD BOROUGH SUPPLY (taken from tap, The Bakery, Little Haywood) Sample No. 470	INGESTRE ESTATE SUPPLY (Taken from tap, cottage at Hopton) Sample No. 492	STAFFS. COUNTY COUNCIL (Yarlet Bank) SUPPLY
Date and Hour of Collection ..	19.5.52—3.50 p.m.	17.4.52—4 p.m.	21.8.52—2.50 p.m.	As this Supply is to County Council pro- perties only, the County Health Dept. took samples. Those taken early in year were unsatisfactory but samples proved satisfactory after chlorination appa- tus was installed.
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION				
Probable number of coliform bacilli. MacConkey 2 days 37°C.	Nil	Nil	17 (non-faecal coli)	
CHEMICAL ANALYSIS				
pH Value	7.4	7.5	7.6	
Total Solid Matter Dried at 212°F	Parts per 100,000	Parts per 100,000	Parts per 100,000	
Free and Saline Ammonia ..	38.5	28.5	39.0	
Albuminoid	Nil	0.0004	Nil	
Nitric Nitrogen	0.004	0.0008	0.0012	
Chlorine present as Chloride ..	0.3	0.23	0.57	
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F.	1.7	5.25	2.20	
Appearance	0.016	0.012	0.014	
Metallie Contamination ..	Clear	Clear	—	
	None	Extremely minute trace of Iron	None	
Total Hardness	26.0°	13.0°	17.38°	
Permanent Hardness	16.0°	9.0°	15.26°	
Temporary Hardness	10.0°	4.0°	2.12°	

Eleven samples were taken at random from various parts of The Hollies Supply Area during the year and all gave similar results to those shown above in sample No. 474. However, a sample of the Hollies Supply taken from The Outlands (Adbaston Parish)—and taken at the same time as satisfactory samples of the same supply were obtained elsewhere—was found to be unsatisfactory bacteriologically but the sample had been taken soon after installation of this particular length of main. After further flushing and chlorination of the main, subsequent samples showed the supply to be satisfactory.

SEWERAGE

During the year the extension by the Council of the Gnosall sewerage to serve 22 dwellings in Wharf Road, Gnosall, was completed. Schemes were also prepared and adopted for the sewerage of Creswell, Hyde Lea and the unsewered section of Hixon.

In the same period the Norbury Sewerage Scheme was approved by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and work has since commenced.

At the present time the greater number of houses in the area are drained to cesspools or septic tanks and soakaways in the gardens of the houses. The serious danger to health caused by the continually overflowing septic tanks in the Berkswich and Brocton parishes and, to a lesser degree, in other parts of the area, and the flow of untreated sewage into ditches, river and canal in the Colwich and Stowe parishes and elsewhere must again be emphasised. A remedy of these conditions is anticipated, however, in the near future. It will be noted that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government held early in 1953 a public enquiry into the sewerage of these areas.

The number of dwellings sewerage and the number of W.C's, etc., in the area are shown on page 21.

REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION

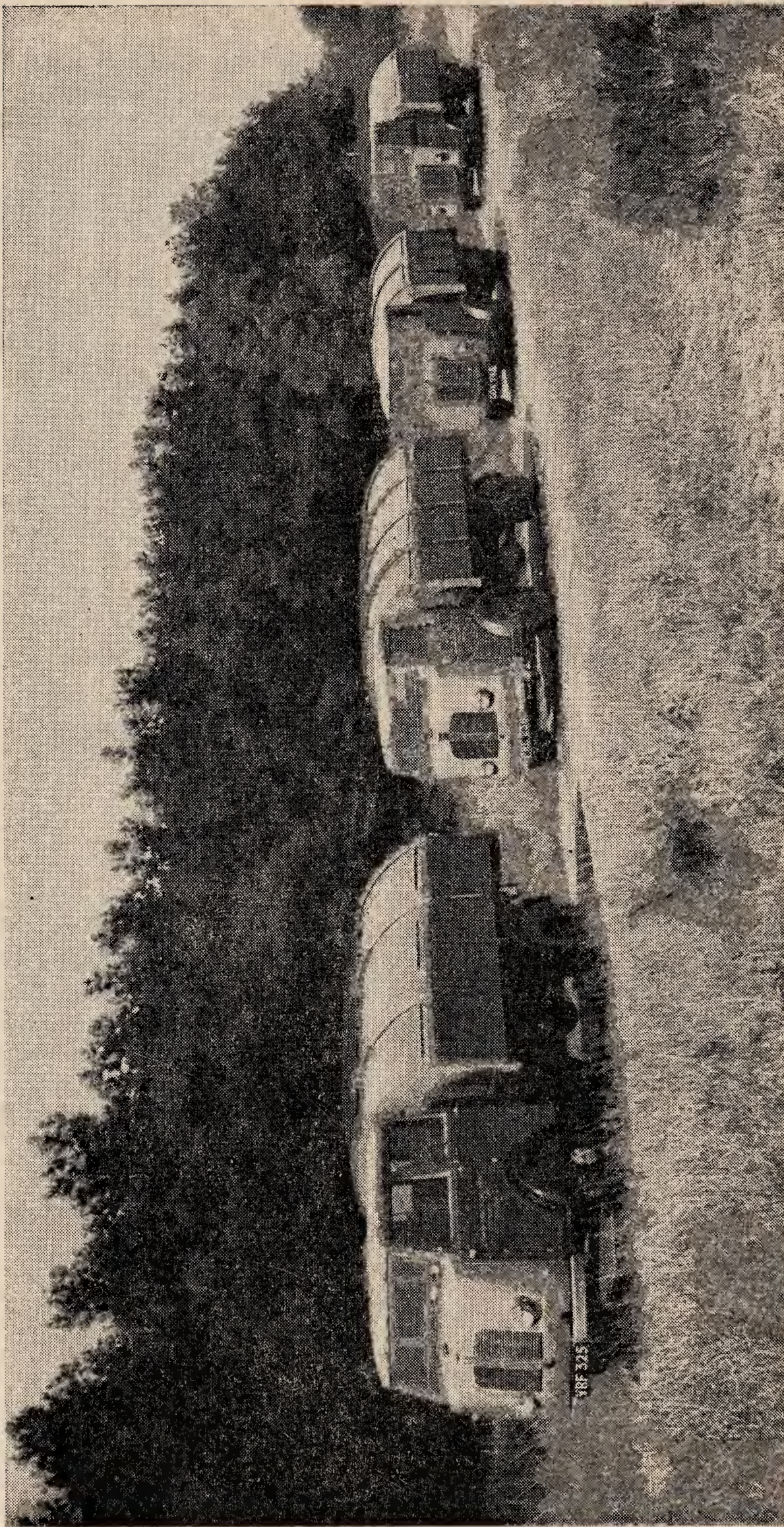
The collection of house refuse was carried out by direct labour from all the villages and built-up areas of the Council's district. Four modern type low-loading refuse collection vehicles—two of 7 cub. yd. capacity (2-man cabs), one of 12 cub. yd. capacity (2-man cab) and one of 10 cub. yd. capacity (6-man cab)—were employed. The purchase dates of the vehicles are 1942, 1947, 1948 and 1951, respectively. Ten men were engaged on this work and in levelling and soil-covering tips.

About 3,000 dwellings received the service, approximately half of these being serviced weekly and the remainder fortnightly. With few exceptions, collections were made on the same day of the week. The few dwellings which do not receive the service are in isolated positions as the service cannot embrace such dwellings except at excessive additional cost.

It is contended that the provision of a satisfactory and regular refuse collection service to a district so vast as this—the total mileage covered in the year being approximately 30,000—is no mean achievement. Approximately 2,000 tons of refuse were collected during the year.

With the help of a Commer tipper lorry, which is used for general work, the several refuse tips were kept in reasonably good order and rigorous steps were regularly taken to keep the refuse tips rat-free by poisoning methods during the year.

Salvage Collection. The demand for and value of salvaged paper decreased greatly in 1952 and only 19 tons 19 cwts. were despatched representing an income of £231 3s. 9d.



Stafford R.D.C. Refuse Vehicles in use in 1952

HOUSING

New Houses erected or provided during 1952 :—

(a)	by Local Authority (Permanent Houses)	..	56
	These were at Gnosall, 8 ; Great Haywood, 2 ; Brocton, 6 ; Fradswell, 10 ; and Stowe Parish, 30.		
(b)	by Private Enterprise	.. ..	28
(c)	by C.C. for Police Force	.. ..	1
			—
			85
			—

Existing Dwellings.—Much time was devoted by the Sanitary Inspectors to existing housing conditions. Many overcrowded cases and other families living in insanitary conditions were re-housed to better accommodation and many dwellings were repaired and improved by the efforts of the department.

Extensive and detailed records of the dwellings in the district are kept in the department. Information as to the condition of the dwellings in the area is given on page 6627.

Clearance Area.—During the year most of the families were re-housed from the Glueworks, Weston-upon-Trent Clearance Area which was made by the Council under Section 26 of the Housing Act, 1936, and confirmed by the Minister of Local Government and Planning in 1951.

POST-WAR COUNCIL HOUSES



Great Haywood Site



Greenfields, Gnosall Site

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

The following shows the number and type of factories in the area :—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections during 1952
(i) Non-Mechanical	1	1
(ii) Mechanical Factories ..	36	37
TOTAL	37	38

In two instances defective sanitary conveniences were found and these were remedied during the year. Only five of the factories are of any size.

Two outworkers were employed in the district of the Council during the year, the premises being satisfactory.

Six factories in the area are granted Certificates that sufficient means of Fire Escape are provided and there were no contraventions in this respect.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Eighty-seven Licences were issued during the year for the bulk storage of 59,666 gallons of motor spirit. 61 of the licensed premises had hand-pumps fitted to storage tanks, 25 had electric pumps and one stored in metal barrels and containers.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council provides a free service of rat disinfection to residential property, while the treatment of many of the farms in the area is executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries by contract. The cost of treating other properties by the Council is re-charged to the occupiers.

Infestations which were treated by the department during 1952 were :—

Private Residential Property	28
R.D.C. Refuse Tips and Sewage Works ..	3

The public sewers were tested for rats during the year with negative results.

SHOPS ACTS 1912—1934

All the shops in the area of the Council were inspected during the year.

The following table gives an analysis of the total number of shops but it should be borne in mind that there are no large shops in the area—in fact all but eight shops have dwelling accommodation combined. No contraventions of note were found.

	No. of Shops	No. of Assistants			
		Occupier's family		Others	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
Butchers	7	9	2	4	—
Catering Establishments	15	3	14	1	4
Electricians	1	1	—	1	—
Fruit and Vegetables ..	3	3	2	—	1
Sweets and Tobacco ..	11	5	8	—	—
General Provisions ..	44	29	47	8	12
Public Houses	48	46	53	—	1
Drapers	2	—	2	—	1
Garages and Cycles ..	15	17	1	9	—
Hairdresser	1	—	1	—	—
Post Offices	14	9	13	—	—
Shoe Repairs	2	2	—	—	—
	163	124	143	23	19

Closing Hours

(a) EARLY CLOSING DAY

The number of shops closed half days (by 1 p.m.) is as follows :—

MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
5	24	26	4	—	21

(b) GENERAL CLOSING HOURS

The General Closing Hours applicable in this district were :—

Winter—7.30 p.m. on Saturdays and 6 p.m. other days.

Summer—9 p.m. on Saturdays and 8 p.m. other days.

Welfare

There were only four young persons (ages 16—18 years) employed, these being at :—

General Provisions Stores	..	..	..	2
Fruit and Vegetable	..	..	..	1
Garage	..	..	..	1

As will be seen, few assistants are employed, but so far as could be ascertained from the inspections, assistants' half-holidays (i.e., not later than 1.30 p.m.) were being observed as also were the specified meal times and the provision of seats for females as required by the Acts.

As regards sanitary facilities to shops (i.e., ventilation, heating, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, lighting, etc.), some allowance has to be made for lack of sewerage and water services in some of the villages.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Of applications received for licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, to station and use vans as dwellings, 35 were granted, these being subject to various conditions as to siting, sanitary facilities, etc., and all were granted for a twelve months period or less. Nine of these vans left the district before the end of the year. Three other applications were received but refused.

The licensed vans were fairly well scattered over the council's area, were satisfactorily kept and created no nuisance. No site licences have been granted.

FOOD INSPECTION

Particulars of food inspected during the year :

MEAT—CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

		Cows Heifers & Bulls Bullocks			Calves	Sheep	Pigs.	Horses
	No. killed and inspected	94	27	3	5	17	45	203
Meat condemned due to : Tuberculosis	Whole carcase condemned	16	5	—	—	—	1	—
	Part carcase or organ condemned	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
	Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	19.1	22.2	—	—	—	2.2	—
Johnc's Disease	Whole carcase condemned	3	2	2	—	—	—	—
	Part carcase or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia, Fevered con- ditions (Metritis, Wiring, Mastitis, etc.)	Whole carcase condemned	31	8	1	—	4	43*	—
	Part carcase or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases and con- ditions (Jaundice, Tumours Immaturity, etc.)	Whole carcase condemned	2	—	—	3	—	—	2†
	Part carcase or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Imperfect Bleeding (Mori- bund, Animals, etc.)	Whole carcase condemned	10	3	—	1	9	—	—
	Part carcase or organ condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mechanical Injuries and Bruising	Whole carcase condemned	14	1	—	—	4	—	6
	Part carcase or organ condemned	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Localised conditions of Organs (abscesses, pneu- monia, mastitis, etc.)	Whole carcase condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Part carcase or organ condemned	3	—	—	—	—	1	—

The above animals were killed and examined at a Casualty Slaughterhouse in the area, which is the reason for the high percentage of meat condemned.

* 41 affected with Swine Fever.

† 2 affected with Tuberculous-like lesions but laboratory examination of specimens gave no conclusive results.

Weight of Meat (excluding horses) condemned due to :—

(a) Tuberculosis	10,508 lbs.	
(b) Other Diseases or conditions	42,146 lbs.	
		52,654 lbs.
Weight of Horseflesh condemned ..		4,950 lbs.
Weight of other Food Condemned ..		505 lbs.
Total weight of Food Condemned		58,109 lbs.

Five slaughterhouses were licensed by this Council for the use of private pig-keepers. These licences were additional to the licence granted year by year to the Casualty Slaughterhouse in the district. This Slaughterhouse continued to be kept in a manner satisfactory to this department. Licences were also granted for the use during the year of two Knaacker's Yards in the area. Thirty men were licensed to stun and slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Food Preparing Premises and Food Shops

There were only three premises in the area manufacturing prepared meats and two premises in which ice-cream was manufactured. These continued to be satisfactory. They—together with 30 shops from which ice-cream is sold—are registered by the Council in conformity with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Byelaws as to handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air are in operation in the area of the Council. Routine inspections of shops, vehicles and places where food is prepared were made during the year.

Samples of ice-cream were taken at regular intervals during the "season" with results as follows :—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

	Grade			
	1	2	3	4
Seven samples taken from the two manufacturers in Rural District (3 samples from one manufacturer and 4 from the other)	6	1	—	—
Fourteen samples taken from the eight manufacturers whose premises are without the Rural District but supply to Rural District	12	2	—	—

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggest that over a six-monthly period, 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20% into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4. All makes of ice-cream complied with the foregoing standard.

Food Poisoning.—There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The table following gives particulars of the registrations and licences granted by the Council :—

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 :—

No. of Distributors of Milk with Dairies in Stafford R.D.C. area	9
No. of Distributors having Dairies outside R.D.C. area	21

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1949 :—

No. Licensed to sell (a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	31
(b) Pasteurised Milk ..	26
(c) Sterilised Milk ..	7

Quite a number of farmers retail their own Tuberculin Tested milk through their Producers' Licence granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and these are additional to the figures above.

Consumption of Pasteurised Milk.—It is estimated that two-thirds of the Stafford Rural District population consume pasteurised milk. For comparison purposes the following table has been prepared :—

Percentage of Heat Treated and Raw Milk Consumed

	Pasteurised & Sterilised	Raw
Stafford R.D.C.	67%	33%
Admin. County of London	Near 100%	Almost Nil
England and Wales (Year ended 30.9.51)	81%	19%
Scotland (Year ended 30.9.51) ..	67%	33%

Milk Sampling.—Routine “Street” samples taken in the rural district during the year by County Council sampling officers resulted as follows :—

	Bacteriological Examinations			Biological Examinations			
	No. Samples Taken	No. Passing	No. Failing	No. Samples Taken	No. Negative	No. Positive Tuber- culosis	Brucella Abortus
Distributors (Mostly Heat-treated Milk) ..	75	66	9	16	15	1	—
Farmer-Retailers (all Raw Milk) ..	114	87	27*	103	91	9	3†

*These failures were undesignated milk supplies, samples from which were sub-
mitted to the Methylene Blue test for designated milk.

†Not all the samples taken were examined for Br. abortus.

Notices were served under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, requiring heat treatment of the milk in each of the ten instances where the milk was found to be infected with tuberculosis. All these notices were withdrawn on your Medical Officer of Health being satisfied that the supply in each case was no longer likely to cause disease through infection.

The three cases of infection of the milk supply by Brucella abortus were investigated and informal arrangements made with the producer in each case for the suspect milk to be sent away for pasteurisation’

A. THOMSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

G. M. LAWTON,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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